

At their April 22, 2026, the Arlington County Board of Supervisors adopted the ordinance clearing the way to join the [Northern Virginia Cigarette Tax Board \(NVCTB\)](#) effective July 1, 2026 to streamline tax administration and enhance enforcement against unstamped cigarettes. The County Board initiated steps in early 2026 to authorize this agreement, aligning its local cigarette tax administration with regional partners.

**Key Aspects of the Move:**

- **Regional Uniformity:** By joining, Arlington aligns with the NVCTB, which consists of 26 localities, including Fairfax County.
- **Stamping and Enforcement:** The [NVCTB](#) provides a single point of contact for stamping agents and enforces local cigarette tax ordinances, covering the use of uniform tax stamps.
- **Administrative Efficiency:** The move helps streamline the enforcement of local tax compliance and ensures a consistent revenue stream, as highlighted in the [Final Report of Cigarette Tax Stamping Workgroup](#).
- **Tax Authority:** Previously, only cities, towns, and specific counties like Arlington and Fairfax were authorized to impose local cigarette taxes, note the [Report of the Task Force on the Modernization of Cigarette Stamping](#).

The NVCTB will formally vote on the request to join during the next full board meeting on June 4, 2026.

The NVCTB established in 1970 is responsible for managing the uniform tax stamps on cigarettes sold within its member jurisdictions, including the collection and distribution of cigarette tax revenue and the enforcement of their cigarette tax ordinances.